

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



549812

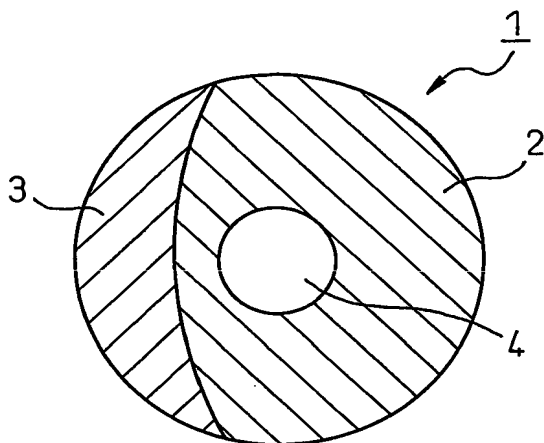
(43) International Publication Date
6 January 2005 (06.01.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/001175 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **D01F 8/14**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/JP2004/009089
- (22) International Filing Date: 22 June 2004 (22.06.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
2003-182736 26 June 2003 (26.06.2003) JP
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **SOLO-TEX CORPORATION** [JP/JP]; 2-6, Dojimahama 1-chome, Kita-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 5308205 (JP).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **YAMADA, Toshihiro** [JP/JP]; c/o Teijin Fibers Limited, Matsuyama Factory, 77, Kitayoshidacho, Matsuyama-shi, Ehime 7918041 (JP).
- (74) Agents: **AOKI, Atsushi** et al.; A. AOKI, ISHIDA & ASSOCIATES, Toranomom 37 Mori Bldg., 5-1, Toranomom 3-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 1058423 (JP).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— with international search report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: POLYTRIMETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE HOLLOW COMPOSITE STAPLE FIBERS AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING SAME



(57) Abstract: The polytrimethylene terephthalate hollow composite staple fibers exhibiting a latent crimping property and high bulkiness and elastic recovery and useful for nonwoven, woven and knitted fabrics and cushioning materials, have a hollow side-by-side or core-in-sheath type structure formed from two polytrimethylene terephthalate resin components one of which has an intrinsic viscosity of 0.50 to 1.40 dl/g and other one of which has an intrinsic viscosity of 0.40 to 1.30 dl/g and 0.1 to 0.5 dl/g below that of the former, and having a hollow part with a cross-sectional area of 2 to 15 % of the total cross-sectional area, and exhibit, after the hollow composite staple fibers are formed into a web having a basis weight of 30 g/m², and the web is heated at 120° C for 10 minutes to cause the web to freely shrink, an area thermal shrinkage of 30 to 70 % based on the original area of non-heated web.

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